



CITY OF LONG BEACH
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS, RECREATION AND MARINE
COMMISSION ON YOUTH AND CHILDREN
MINUTES
March 23, 2005

I. CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Rebecca Turrentine, Co-Chair, called the meeting of the Commission on Youth and Children to order at 5:10 p.m., in the large conference room at the Parks, Recreation and Marine Senior Center. Roll call was taken and a quorum was confirmed.

Present:

Sotheara Chhay
Fabian Gonzalez
Helen Ingram
Marty Isozaki
Jeanetta McAlpin
Jon Meyer
Victor Perez

Lauren Perry
Alexis Peterson
Jessica Quintana
Marc Rothenberg
Lou Santos
Chelsii Summerville

Absent:

Kate Levinstein (excused)
Mary Soth (excused)

Chanel Suares (excused)
Jennifer To (excused)

Staff:

Cynthia Fogg, Superintendent, Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine
Andrew Romero, Youth Specialist, Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine
Dan Hendricks, Commission Clerk, Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine

Guests:

Phil T. Hester, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine
Deanneka Goodwin, City Councilmember O'Donnell's Office
B.J. Wills, Neighborhood Services Bureau
Diane Lewis, Bureau Manager, Community Enrichment Bureau
Cecile Harris Walters, Neighborhood Services Bureau
Erika Cubias, Centro CHA
Araeli Pena, Centro CHA

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Commissioner Meyer and seconded by Commissioner Chhay to approve the February 23, 2005 Commission on Youth and Children minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

III. COMMENTS

Commissioner Isozaki discussed legislation that is before Congress on career technical education funding. He testified at a State Board of Education meeting supporting the adoption of new curriculum standards for California's Career Technical

Education programs. If the SBE adopts the proposed curriculum in May 2005, a more detailed framework for school districts will be designed in 2005-2006.

Andrew Romero alerted the Commission that Councilmember Patrick O'Donnell had honored Commissioner Chelsii Summerville with a letter of recognition as an outstanding citizen in the 4th District. He also thanked Commissioner Soth for testifying before Long Beach Transit, and Commissioner Isozaki for his work on rate change suggestions. Mr. Romero later discussed the It's My Future forum, which will be held on Saturday, April 16 from 8:30 – 4:00. This is a free forum focused on violence prevention, sponsored by many of the domestic violence shelters in Long Beach.

Felicia Mollinedo, director of community resource development for Stand Up For Kids addressed the Commission to alert them to the existence of her program. Their work in Long Beach is to advocate for homeless youth, and Felicia wished to introduce the program. The organization is volunteer-based, and they are looking to target the areas where homeless youth are squatting and go out to them to give them basic necessities.

IV. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT TO THE COMMISSION

Cynthia Fogg began by addressing the Commission regarding CSULB's Community Outreach Forum. However, the conference takes place on a weekday, so few youth will be able to attend. Therefore, Andrew Romero was attempting to get names of youth interested in attending, and then getting them out of school so they could attend. Mr. Romero also wished to have the Commission listed as a sponsor of the event, but needed to ensure that the Commission was interested in doing so.

It was moved by Commissioner Rothenberg and seconded by Commissioner Peterson to ratify the Commission's sponsorship of Cal State University Long Beach's Community Issues Forum. The motion passed unanimously.

The Los Angeles Children's Planning Council wishes the Commission on Youth and Children to make a presentation to their board on May 16. They would like a presentation on the Profile and Annual Report. The CPC will be contacting staff to confirm the date and determine who can attend.

The Afterschool Alliance sent an e-mail regarding the Afterschool For All Challenge, which is a nationwide program attempting to raise awareness and increase availability of afterschool programs. Mayor O'Neill, Phil Hester, and the Afterschool Partnership have all been supporting this program for about a year. The program is having an advocacy day in Washington, D.C. in May. They have a youth advocacy track, which will train participants as advocates and give them special assignments on Capitol Hill. Staff took names of Commissioners interested in attending, and began to attempt to find funding to send interested Commissioners.

V. CO-CHAIRS REPORT TO THE COMMISSION

Co-Chair Turrentine informed the Commission that she and Co-Chair Batton would be part of a panel at the League of Women Voters on April 16, 2005. They will be discussing the Commission and bringing copies of the Annual Report. She also discussed the panel at the Youth Services Network meeting, which discussed drug abuse among youth and children in Long Beach. One of the panel members expressed interest in the Profile Committee's data collection methods and they discussed the recommendations made to City Council in the Annual report.

VI. REPORTS

a. Committees

- I. **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**, Commissioners Turrentine and Batton, Co-Chairs
(No meeting)

- II. **PROFILE PROJECT COMMITTEE** Committee Co-Chairs Levinstein and Peterson

The Profile Project committee is on hiatus until the City Council determines whether or not to continue the project.

- III. **PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE** Committee Co-Chairs Chhay and McAlpin

Co-Chair Chhay briefed the Commission on the first meeting of the Public Relations Committee. They first discussed the creation of media packets containing basic summary information on the Commission, which they can distribute to reporters who are covering the Commission. This packet, or something similar, could likewise be distributed to new Commissioners to ensure that they are brought up to speed on the history of the Commission. They hope to have this packet completed by summer of 2005. They additionally wish to have a forum during the 2006 Long Beach Mayoral race to create a forum wherein youth can question the candidates on youth issues within the City of Long Beach. The Committee also discussed the option of tasking someone with taking pictures of Commission events, or obtaining a camera, that could be taken by various Commissioners to events. Finally, the Committee discussed the creation of a tagline for the Commission to use. Various suggestions were offered up to the Committee, and it was suggested that additional suggestions be e-mailed to members of the Committee before their April meeting.

b. Standing Items

- I. **Education and Youth Strategic Plan**
There were no comments on the plan at this meeting.
- II. **District Level Youth Advisory Councils**

a. Report on September DLYAC meetings.

Andrew Romero and the various youth Commissioners present reported on the following schedules for the District Level Youth Advisory Councils.

- District 1* Met and settled on meeting twice a month. They elected officers and began to take minutes and work on bylaws.
- District 2* Discussed recent violence at Cabrillo and the various upcoming forums dealing with the issue.
- District 3* Will meet March 25th
- District 4* Discussed forums for youth and the recent violence in Long Beach
- District 5* Will have their first meeting on April 7, 2004 at 4:00 pm
- District 6* Will be meeting the second Wednesday of each month.
- District 7* Dark – moving to a new location next month
- District 8* No Report
- District 9* Discussed participation in the CSULB forum, a neighborhood clean-up, and the service learning hour requirements and the possibility of volunteering at a 21st Century Community Learning Site to fulfill those hours.

The DLYAC flyer is in a final draft, and permission is being sought from LBUSD to distribute at their campuses.

It was moved by Commissioner Perry and seconded by Commissioner Summerville to receive and file the reports from the March DLYAC meetings and approve the DLYAC flyer. The motion carried unanimously.

b. Requests for DLYAC involvement/participation

III. Youth and Gang Violence Task Force

Previous meeting was March 14th, which was their first meeting at the Cal Rec Center. They are discussing meeting at various locations to make it easier for people in those areas to attend. Commissioner Rothenberg discussed a new bill out, entitled Gang Prevention and Effective Deterrence Act, that the Task Force will be discussing at their next meeting. They will be having several presentations on it in the future. They also had a school safety update after the Cabrillo incident. Finally, they discussed the Charter Communications and Leadership Long Beach telethon to be held on May 12 – 14. The telethon will focus on the issues of youth violence. It has been suggested that if Charter Communications was looking for youth to interview, they could attempt to do so via the DLYACs. The Task Force additionally discussed the CDBG grant issues that had been brought up during their meeting. Cynthia Fogg attempted to verify that all Commissioners were receiving invites to the Task Force meetings, so that they would be able to attend when they wished.

IV. Long Beach Youth Fund

Mr. Romero discussed the Long Beach Youth Fund application process and the events of their previous meeting. The application and submittal dates had been approved, but with a change in the due date. Commissioner Isozaki called attention to a typo in the application to the attention of the Commission, and suggested it be corrected.

It was moved by Commissioner Meyer and seconded by Commissioner Peterson to receive and file the Long Beach Youth Fund application and ratify the change of date. The motion carried unanimously.

Cynthia Fogg requested that as many Commissioners as possible attend the award dinner on May 26.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE

Incoming – None

Outgoing – Letter to Long Beach Transit
Letter of Support for Title V Grant

It was moved by Commissioner Meyer and seconded by Commissioner Peterson to ratify the letter of support for the Title V Grant. The motion carried unanimously.

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. **Youth Leadership Institute (YLI) Workshops for CYC (May 26th, 04)** - As the initial workshops to create a closer bond between youth and adult Commission members seem somewhat moot as all the Commissioners seem to get along, the Commission discussed alternate ways to utilize the YLI's talents.

It was moved by Commissioner Quintana and seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez to wait for staff to negotiate a new agreement for services in lieu of two workshops, to create a Commission / Youth Advisory Council Handbook. The motion carried unanimously.

- b. **Harbor Commission**

The Commission has not yet received a response from the Harbor Commission regarding their proposal in the letter sent to the Harbor Commission.

- c. **CYC Annual Report, January 04-December 04, including the *Profile of Long Beach Youth and Children*** – The date for the Commission to appear before City Council is still pending, but later than initially indicated to the Commissioners, even though the Commission staff had submitted all documentation in a timely manner. The process for submitting a Council letter to get agendaized was discussed.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

- a. **CDBG Funding Presentation** BJ Wills discussed the cut in CDBG funding. Commissioner Quintana suggested that staff draft a letter in support of the CDBG programs. Commissioner Meyer indicated that he would like a more thorough breakdown of the current use of CDBG funds so that the Commission might be more accurate in its recommendations. Cynthia Fogg then gave a brief overview of how CDBG funds are used via Youth Services programs. Some of their programs also overlap Police Beats 4, 5 & 7, which is the location where several programs are working together to curb violence. As the Commission has until June to act on this issue, the possibility of having an additional speaker to talk about where CDBG money is spent was discussed. Co-Chair Turrentine suggested discussing the topic further at a later meeting.

It was moved by Commissioner Quintana and seconded by Commissioner Meyer to receive and file the information and ask CDBG staff to bring back a presentation on CDBG fund usage. The motion carried unanimously.

- b. **CYC Policies and Procedures – First Reading** – Co-Chair Turrentine introduced the draft of the Commission on Youth and Children's Policies and Procedures. She encouraged the other Commissioners to read them as the Policies and Procedures will be recommended for approval at the April meeting.

It was moved by Commissioner Quintana and seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez to review the CYC Policies and Procedures and to prepare for a second reading at the next CYC meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

X. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on **Wednesday, April 27th, at 5:00 p.m.**

XI. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Commissioner Chhay and seconded by Commissioner Gonzalez to adjourn the meeting of the Commission on Youth and Children at 7:22 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

**This information is available in an alternative format by request
to Jane Grobaty at (562) 570-3232.
The City of Long Beach intends to provide reasonable accommodations in
accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If a special
accommodation is desired, please call Daniel Hendricks
48 hours prior to the meeting, at (562) 570-3538.**